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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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PATENT
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In re Patent Application of:

TOMOYUKI ASANO

Application No.: 08/865,403

Filed: May 29, 1997

For: CHARGING SYSTEM AND
CHARGING METHOD

) Group Art Unit: 2709
)
) Examiner: NGA B. NGUYEN
)
) **AMENDMENT**
)
) 2001 Ferry Building
) San Francisco, CA 94111
) (415) 433-4150
)
) Atty Docket: SONY-P7449
)

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03 FC:102 546.00 00

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on September 11, 2000.

LIMBACH & LIMBACH L.L.P. Date: September 11, 2000

By: Mary Bern
Name:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action mailed March 16, 2000, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 1-8 without prejudice.

9. (Three Times Amended) A method [of charging] for [electronic commerce, a service provider terminal] providing a service to a user [via a network in response to a request from a user terminal, and charging a user a fee corresponding to said service], comprising the steps of:

receiving a service request requesting desired service for the user from a service provider and a digital signature generated based on said service request from a user terminal;